

**Lowerline and Coolidge Streets
Radium Remediation Talking Points
April 2019**

- The Environmental Protection Agency, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and the City of New Orleans will soon begin excavating and removing a portion of contaminated soil buried beneath the intersection of Lowerline St. and Coolidge Ct. in the Gert Town neighborhood of New Orleans.
- Construction crews will be on site to remove contaminated soil that was first discovered in 2013 and found to be no immediate threat to the public.
- The soil beneath the roadway contains elements of Radium-226 from an unknown source and while there is no immediate threat from the material, is being removed out of an abundance of caution.
- Lowerline St. from Olive to Edinburgh streets and Coolidge Ct. from Lowerline to Pine streets will be closed to through traffic while the excavation is underway. Residents should expect to see barricades onsite and plan to park on the side street.
- Crews are expected to mobilize to the site at 7 a.m. on Month xx, 2019. Crews are authorized to work from sunrise to sunset while the work is underway. Weather permitting, the excavation, removal and disposal work is estimated to last two weeks.
- The roadway will be fully repaved in asphalt when the excavation work is completed.
- Additional sidewalk work is planned as part of a future FEMA-funded project.
- Total cost of the removal, disposal and repaving is estimated at approx. \$600,000. Specialized crews will be onsite to remove the soil.
- Residents should use caution when walking on sidewalks near the excavation site and mind the barriers and safety fencing onsite.
- Once the site is fully excavated, the contaminated material will be disposed of xxx.

Local Elected Officials (once the communication strategy is finalized, I'll forward to appropriate contacts within CNO)

Mayor LaToya Cantrell

Councilman Joseph Giarusso

Beau Tidwell, Communications Director, Mayor's Office

In the event of emergency:

DEQ has committed to having a full time staffer onsite Contact: Jeff Dauzat?

DPW will have staff on site several times per day. Contact Cheryn Robles 504-657-9169

EPA contact Greg Fife

Local Spokesperson:

Keith LaGrange, DPW Director of Public Works

Ramsey Green, Deputy CAO